

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
MONTANA STATE SENATE

February 22, 1977

The nineteenth meeting of the Senate Education Committee was called to order by Senator Chet Blaylock, Chairman, on the above date, in Room 402 of the State Capitol Building at 11:00 o'clock A. M.

ROLL CALL: All members of the Committee were present.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL No. 66: An act creating a fire services training school.

Representative Bertelsen, House District 27, as co-sponsor of the Bill, in absence of Rep. Robbins, was called on to present his testimony. He stated an Interim Committee investigating fire problems throughout the State found the Great Falls school established about 20 years ago and thereafter put into the Vocational Technical School was having trouble. This Bill would separate the fire school from under the State Superintendent and put it under the Board of Public Education and allow for its own advisory board. In 1975, they trained about 2,300 fire fighters who went through 30 to 40 hours of intensive training, but because of the large area included, they were not fulfilling their responsibilities. He further stated insurance organizations supported this, in addition to the various agencies throughout the State involved in fire fighting.

Proponents of the Bill included:

James Macklin, Fire Services Training, Great Falls, who explained the problem of trying to operate under the present Vocational Technical Center when there was a conflict of interests between the local resident students and those who have different priorities because of coming from all over the State.

Dave Fisher, representing the Montana Volunteer Firemen's Assoc. and Fire Chief's Association, State Director of Firemen's Training, stated that they had been trying for 6 years to get satisfactory legislation passed for a fire training school; that this was the best Bill so far and hoped it would be successful.

Thomas Selleck, Helena, Montana, State Fire Marshall supported House Bill No. 66.

Art Korn, Butte, Montana, representing the Montana State Volunteer Firemen's Association, told the Committee there were about 6,000

volunteers needing training and hoped for a do pass on this Bill.

Glen Drake, Helena, Montana, representing the League of Cities and Towns and the American Insurance and Bonding Associations, stated his support of the Bill.

Les Nilson, Great Falls, Mont., Montana State Firemen's Association, stated that training is very important and continues throughout a firefighter's career; that they must have some additional training every year and this legislation would facilitate meeting these requirements.

No witnesses appeared in opposition to the Bill.

The Chair then called for questions by the Committee, and the Bill's accompanying Fiscal Note was discussed, with Senator Fasbender explaining that there were on-going costs included in the Note, along with the additional funds necessary to expand the program; so, part of the \$810,000 is for the continuing cost of operating the fire training school as it now exists and is a little misleading as to the actual expense of implementing this Bill.

To questions raised by the Committee regarding charging for the fire training school, Mr. Macklin explained there was only one commercial fire fighting organization in the State at present and that was in Billings which would send people to be trained at the school and for which they could charge for the training; but due to businesses like the coal fields opening up, there may be an increase in these private organizations.

Senator Smith questioned Mr. Macklin regarding the fire trucks used at the fire training school, and was told they were equipped with all the necessary hand tools and equipment and breathing apparatus so the men could become familiar with such equipment; and that the school trains fighters on their own district's trucks.

In closing, Representative Bertelsen said that he hoped the Committee would look beyond the change in departments and think of this matter in the light of saving lives with better-trained personnel.

Mr. Macklin was asked by Senator Warden if insurance rates would be lowered because of this type of legislation; he replied that probably not directly, but when the fire bureau graded the city and gave a more favorable rating, then insurance rates might be reduced.

Senator Fasbender questioned why this legislation was necessary as the fire school was presently under the Board of Public Education through the Vocational Technical designation. Dr. Larry Key,

from the Board of Public Education, replied he thought the problem arose with the handling of funds as they went to the State Superintendent's office for disbursement rather than to the Board.

The Chair closed the hearing on House Bill No. 66.

DISPOSITION OF SENATE BILL No. 271: Senator Blaylock suggested amending the Bill to show an increase of 12% and 12% which would leave some room for bargaining; considerable discussion followed relating to what amount of increase in the school foundation program would receive the most favorable response. Senator Fasbender handed out schedules showing the funding levels of public schools and explained the figures; it was mentioned the new State appraisals would make a difference in the amount of money raised and that something should be done with the Bill as it had to go into Finance & Claims Committee for appropriation.

Senator Boylan moved that the Bill be amended to show a 10% increase in the schedule for each year of the biennium, the actual figure amendments being as shown on the Standing Committee Report attached; this motion was seconded and carried by unanimous vote as a DO PASS AS AMENDED.

FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL No. 69: Senator Mathers suggested a Senate resolution asking for a thorough study of the vocational education program during the next two years so that testimony from the various interest groups could be compiled and have some input directly from the vocational education centers and high schools, so the Committee would have the basic facts on which to base their decision. Mr. Wm. Ball, Director of the Montana Advisory Council for Vocational Education, stated his agency had been studying the program for about 5 years and that the Committee had been supplied with a copy of the report which is entitled "Montana Advisory Council 7th Annual Evaluation Report, December 1976, for Vocational Education", along with a copy of their "Governance of Montana's Vocational Education, April, 1976".

Further discussion touched on funding of vocational education programs and how the proposed change in structure might affect federal funding, the pros and cons of a study committee and how the proposed change of governance would affect the employment of present personnel.

The Chairman asked if the Committee wished to take action at this time on House Bill 69, which was declined.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 o'clock P. M.

  
Chet Blaylock, Chairman



DATE February 22, 1977

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

BILL NO. HOUSE #66

VISITOR'S REGISTER

| NAME               | REPRESENTING                    | Check One                           |                          |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
|                    |                                 | Support                             | Oppose                   |
| James Macklin      | Fire Service Training           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| James S. Bertelsen | Sponsor Rep.                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ART KOHN           | MONT STATE VOL FIREMEN'S ASSOC  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Thomas Selbeck     | Chief Deputy STATE FIRE MARSHAL | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Ray Fisher         | Montana Fire Chiefs Ass.        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Lee Nilson         | Mt St. Firemen's Assn           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Lee Dole           | Levy of Cities & Towns          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| William Galt       | Academy                         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| John C. Gray       | Board of Public Ed.             | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| John Sargent       | MSBA                            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| John Delaney       | Bl. Par Ed                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Tom Sewell         | self                            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| John Sewell        | "                               | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |

NAME: Thomas Bentzen DATE: 1-25-77

ADDRESS: Carroll

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

REPRESENTING WHOM? \_\_\_\_\_

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: HR 64

DO YOU: SUPPORT?  AMEND? \_\_\_\_\_ OPPOSE? \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: Sponsor

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PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME:

*Al Duke*

DATE:

*2/22*

ADDRESS:

*Allen*

PHONE:

*442-0230*

REPRESENTING WHOM?

*League of Cities & Town*

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL:

*HB66*

DO YOU:

SUPPORT?

AMEND?

OPPOSE?

COMMENTS:

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PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.



NAME: Mrs. Macklin DATE: 2-22-77

ADDRESS: 2100 - 16<sup>th</sup> Ave S O. G.T. Falls

PHONE: 791-2127

REPRESENTING WHOM? Fire Service

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: HR 66

DO YOU: SUPPORT?  AMEND?  OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
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PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: ART KORN DATE: 2/22/77

ADDRESS: 1916 SO WASHINGTON ST BUTTE,

PHONE: 723 4691

REPRESENTING WHOM? VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPTS

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: H.B 66

DO YOU: SUPPORT?  AMEND?  OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
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PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: THOMAS SELLECK DATE: 2-22-77

ADDRESS: 1616 CANNON HELEN, MT.

PHONE: 443-6007

REPRESENTING WHOM? STATE FIRE MARSHAL

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: H 13-66

DO YOU: SUPPORT?  AMEND?  OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
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PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: Gene Fisher DATE: 2/22/77

ADDRESS: 1928 S. Washington St. Butte, Montana

PHONE: 792-8858

REPRESENTING WHOM? Montana Fire Chiefs Ass  
Montana Vol Firemen Ass.

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: H.B. 66

DO YOU: SUPPORT?  AMEND?  OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
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PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: Les Nilson DATE: 2-22-77

ADDRESS: 2009 - Billings Ave, Helena

PHONE: 443-4344

REPRESENTING WHOM? mt st Firemans Assn

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: HB 66

DO YOU: SUPPORT?  AMEND?  OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
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PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

# STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 22 1977

Bill Clerk

MR. President,

We, your committee on EDUCATION

having had under consideration SENATE Bill No. 271,

Respectfully report as follows: That SENATE Bill No. 271,

Introduced Bill, be amended as follows:

1. Amend page 1, section 1, line 24.

Following: "~~60,613~~"

Strike: "\$11,027"

Insert: "\$10,678"

2. Amend page 2, section 1, line 3.

Following: "~~60,613~~"

Strike: "\$11,027"

Insert: "\$10,678"

3. Amend page 2, section 1, line 4.

Following: "~~360~~"

Strike: "\$461"

Insert: "\$446.30"

~~DO PASS~~

February 22, 1977

4. Amend page 2, section 1, line 8.  
Following: "~~{117853}~~"  
Strike: "\$15,176"  
Insert: "\$14,694.70"
5. Amend page 2, section 1, line 9.  
Following: "~~{360}~~"  
Strike: "\$461"  
Insert: "\$446.30"
6. Amend page 2, section 1, line 15.  
Following: "~~{187924}~~"  
Strike: "\$24,226"  
Insert: "\$23,459"
7. Amend page 2, section 1, line 16.  
Following: "~~{22549}~~"  
Strike: "\$288.65"  
Insert: "\$279.50"
8. Amend page 2, section 1, line 25.  
Following: line 24  
Strike: "\$1,070.70"  
Insert: "\$1,037.45"
9. Amend page 3, section 1, line 1.  
Following: "~~{101}~~"  
Strike: "\$1.04"  
Insert: "\$1.02"
10. Amend page 3, section 1, line 5.  
Following: "~~{78768}~~"  
Strike: "\$1,008.30"  
Insert: "\$976.25"
11. Amend page 3, section 1, line 6.  
Following: "~~{74}~~"  
Strike: "\$.95"  
Insert: "\$.92"
12. Amend page 3, section 1, line 11.  
Following: "~~{63910}~~"  
Strike: "\$818.30"  
Insert: "\$792.25"

February 22, 1977

13. Amend page 3, section 1, line 21.  
Following: "~~{649,051}~~"  
Strike: "\$62,850"  
Insert: "\$60,832"

14. Amend page 3, section 1, line 24.  
Following: "~~{62,044}~~"  
Strike: "\$2,618.80"  
Insert: "\$2,534.67"

15. Amend page 3, section 1, line 25.  
Following: "~~{61,15}~~"  
Strike: "\$14.30"  
Insert: "\$13.82"

16. Amend page 4, section 1, line 4.  
Following: "~~{61,665,00}~~"  
Strike: "\$2,390"  
Insert: "\$2,313.55"

17. Amend page 4, section 1, line 6.  
Following: "~~{61,15}~~"  
Strike: "\$14.30"  
Insert: "\$13.82"

18. Amend page 4, section 1, line 10.  
Following: "~~{61,197}~~"  
Strike: "\$1,532"  
Insert: "\$1,484.35"

19. Amend page 4, section 1, line 11.  
Following: "~~{61,06}~~"  
Strike: "\$2.38"  
Insert: "\$2.31"

20. Amend page 4, section 1, line 15.  
Following: line 14  
Strike: "\$1,294"  
Insert: "\$1,253.35"

21. Amend page 4, section 1, line 16.  
Following: "~~{61,02}~~"  
Strike: "\$1.32"  
Insert: "\$1.28"



February 22, 1977

22. Amend page 4, section 1, line 20.

Following: line 19

Strike: "\$1,162"

Insert: "\$1,125.35"

23. Amend page 4, section 1, line 21.

Following: "~~19~~"

Strike: "\$.24"

Insert: "\$.23"

24. Amend page 4, section 1, line 24.

Following: "~~10~~"

Strike: "\$1,090"

Insert: "\$1,056.35"

25. Amend page 5, section 1, line 12.

Following: "~~7~~"

Strike: "\$12,295"

Insert: "\$11,746"

26. Amend page 5, section 1, line 16.

Following: "~~7~~"

Strike: "\$12,295"

Insert: "\$11,746"

27. Amend page 5, section 1, line 17.

Following: "~~70~~"

Strike: "\$514"

Insert: "\$490.90"

28. Amend page 5, section 1, line 22.

Following: "~~8~~"

Strike: "\$16,921"

Insert: "\$16,164.10"

29. Amend page 5, section 1, line 24.

Following: line 23

Strike: "\$514"

Insert: "\$490.90"

30. Amend page 6, section 1, line 5.

Following: "~~6~~"

Strike: "\$27,012"

Insert: "\$25,804.50"

February 22, 1977

31. Amend page 6, section 1, line 6.  
Following: "~~254.10~~"  
Strike: "\$321.84"  
Insert: "\$307.45"
32. Amend page 6, section 1, line 15.  
Following: line 14  
Strike: "\$1,194"  
Insert: "\$1,142.70"
33. Amend page 6, section 1, line 16.  
Following: "~~92~~"  
Strike: "\$1.16"  
Insert: "\$1.12"
34. Amend page 6, section 1, line 20.  
Following: "~~887.50~~"  
Strike: "\$1,124.40"  
Insert: "\$1,075.50"
35. Amend page 6, section 1, line 21.  
Following: "~~84~~"  
Strike: "\$1.06"  
Insert: "\$1.02"
36. Amend page 7, section 1, line 1.  
Following: "~~720.20~~"  
Strike: "\$912.40"  
Insert: "\$871.50"
37. Amend page 7, section 1, line 12.  
Following: "~~557,293~~"  
Strike: "\$70,080"  
Insert: "\$66,916"
38. Amend page 7, section 1, line 15.  
Following: "~~27,304~~"  
Strike: "\$2,920.20"  
Insert: "\$2,788.20"
39. Amend page 7, section 1, line 17.  
Following: line 16  
Strike: "\$15.95"  
Insert: "\$15.20"

February 22, 1977

40. Amend page 7, section 1, line 20.  
Following: "~~{27103}~~"  
Strike: "\$2,665"  
Insert: "\$2,545"

41. Amend page 7, section 1, line 22.  
Following: "~~{1257}~~"  
Strike: "\$15.95"  
Insert: "\$15.20"

42. Amend page 8, section 1, line 1.  
Following: "~~{17349}~~"  
Strike: "\$1,708"  
Insert: "\$1,633"

43. Amend page 8, section 1, line 2.  
Following: "~~{210}~~"  
Strike: "\$2.65"  
Insert: "\$2.54"

44. Amend page 8, section 1, line 6.  
Following: "~~{17139}~~"  
Strike: "\$1,443"  
Insert: "\$1,379"

45. Amend page 8, section 1, line 7.  
Following: "~~{115}~~"  
Strike: "\$1.47"  
Insert: "\$1.41"

46. Amend page 8, section 1, line 11.  
Following: "~~{17023}~~"  
Strike: "\$1,296"  
Insert: "\$1,258"

47. Amend page 8, section 1, line 12.  
Following: "~~{21}~~"  
Strike: "\$.27"  
Insert: "\$.25"

48. Amend page 8, section 1, line 16.  
Following: "~~{95940}~~"  
Strike: "\$1,215"  
Insert: "\$1,163"

P.R.

SENATE COMMITTEE EDUCATION

Date February 22, 1977 SENATE Bill No. 271 Time \_\_\_\_\_

| NAME                            | YES | NO |
|---------------------------------|-----|----|
| Senator Chet Blaylock, Chairman | ✓   |    |
| Senator Ed Smith, Vice Chairman | ✓   |    |
| Senator George McCallum         | ✓   |    |
| Senator Bill Mathers            | ✓   |    |
| Senator William E. Murray       | ✓   |    |
| Senator Frank Dunkle            | ✓   |    |
| Senator Paul Boylan             | ✓   |    |
| Senator Larry Fasbender         | ✓   |    |
| Senator Bill Thomas             | ✓   |    |
| Senator Margaret Warden         | ✓   |    |
|                                 |     |    |
|                                 |     |    |

Jennie Lind  
Secretary

Chet Blaylock  
Chairman

Motion: Senator Paul Boylan moved that Senate Bill No. 271 BE  
AMENDED and as SO AMENDED, DO PASS; this motion was seconded  
and carried by unanimous vote.

(include enough information on motion--put with yellow copy of committee report.)

# United Student Councils for Vocational Education

3615 Montana Ave.  
Billings, MT 59102  
248-77441

404 S. Wyoming St.  
Butte, MT 59701  
792-4256

2100 16th Ave. S.  
Gt. Falls, MT 59405  
761-2100

1115 Roberts St.  
Helena, MT 59601  
442-0060

909 S. Avenue West  
Missoula, MT 59801  
728-2400

January 17, 1977

The Honorable Jack Gunderson  
Montana House of Representatives  
State Capitol Building  
Helena, Montana 59601

Dear Representative Gunderson:

The United Student Councils for Vocational Education (USCVE) would like to take this opportunity to publicly support House Bill Sixty-Nine (69), to wit: "...to authorize the Board of Public Education to employ an executive officer to administer the vocational education program for the State of Montana."


The USCVE is a body of elected student representatives from the five Montana vocational-technical centers. We represent approximately thirty-five hundred (3,500) currently enrolled post-secondary vocational students in Montana.

At our most recent meetings in Butte and Great Falls, the USCVE was presented with the facts from both sides of this "governance" issue. We were addressed by Mr. Gordon Warner, Director of Vocational Skills for the OSPI. We were also addressed by Mr. Richard Bennett, Chairman of the Vocational Education Committee of the Board of Public Education. Our debate of the issues brought us to unanimous support of the position of the Board of Public Education.

The USCVE strongly supports HB69 and is willing to testify before the House of Representatives, the Senate or any committee to further clarify and define our expectations of this new legislation and our past experiences under the current governance by the OSPI.

The USCVE urges that the Education Committee, the House of Representatives, and the Senate vote "Aye" for HB69.

Sincerely,



Chris Birkelo, Chairman  
United Student Council for Vocational Education

CB:mc